

STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION

AT RICHMOND, APRIL 27, 2020

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APPLICATION OF

VIRGINIA NATURAL GAS, INC.

CASE NO. PUR-2019-00207

For approval and certification of natural gas facilities, the Header Improvement Project, and for approval of Rate Schedules and Terms and Conditions for Pipeline Transportation Service

ORDER ON HEARINGS

On December 6, 2019, Virginia Natural Gas, Inc. ("VNG"), filed an application with the State Corporation Commission ("Commission") for approval and certification of natural gas facilities pursuant to the Utility Facilities Act, Code §§ 56-265.1 and 56-265.2. Through its Application and pursuant to Rule 80 A of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure,¹ 5 VAC 5-20-80 A, VNG also seeks approval to implement Rate Schedules HP-TRFT, HP-FT, HP-LFT, and HP-IT and Terms and Conditions for Pipeline Transportation Service.

On December 23, 2019, the Commission issued an Order for Notice and Hearing that, among other things: (1) permitted any interested person to file written or electronic comments with the Commission on or before April 28, 2020; (2) scheduled a public hearing for May 12, 2020, commencing at 10:00 a.m. in the Commission's second floor courtroom located in the Tyler Building, 1300 East Main Street, Richmond, Virginia, to receive testimony from public witnesses; and (3) scheduled an evidentiary hearing for May 13, 2020, commencing at 10:00 a.m. in the same location, to receive the testimony and evidence offered by the Company, the respondents, and the Commission's Staff.

¹ 5 VAC 5-20-10 *et seq.*

NOW THE COMMISSION, upon consideration of the ongoing public health emergency related to the spread of the coronavirus, or COVID-19, is of the opinion and orders as follows.

As an initial matter, the Commission notes that there are motions and other requests pending in this proceeding that, subject to the outcome thereof, may impact the current procedural and hearing schedule. The Commission emphasizes that the instant Order on Hearings does not speak to, nor in any manner serves to prejudice, those pending matters. In addition, the Commission will forthwith rule upon the pending motions when the pleading cycles established therefor have concluded.

The Commission, however, finds that it is appropriate at this time to inform the parties and the public as to how the currently scheduled proceedings are to be conducted in response to the ongoing public health emergency. To wit:

- 1) The deadline for filing written or electronic public comments in this matter is extended to May 12, 2020.
- 2) On May 12, 2020, commencing at 10:00 a.m., the Commission will receive via telephone electronic public witness testimony in this matter. Public witnesses may access the hearing by dialing 804-299-5840, and entering the conference ID of 553303237. To promote fairness for all public witnesses, each witness will be allotted five minutes to provide testimony.
- 3) On May 13, 2020, commencing at 10:00 a.m., the Commission will convene the evidentiary hearing in this matter via Skype for Business ("Skype"), with no one present in the Commission's courtroom.

The Commission will also schedule a pre-hearing conference with the parties to this case, held via Skype, to address specific procedures attendant to the public witness and evidentiary hearings scheduled above.

Accordingly, IT IS SO ORDERED, and this matter is CONTINUED.

AN COPY hereof shall be sent electronically by the Clerk of the Commission to all persons on the official Service List in this matter. The Service List is available from the Clerk of the Commission.